

Help America Vote Act HAVA

The Status of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) in Iowa

Provided by Secretary of State
Chester J. Culver
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Overview

Members of the Government Oversight Committee:

Since the last update of the status of the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) state plan implementation in 2004, Iowa has continued to put into action the State Help America Vote Act (HAVA) plan throughout a very busy and productive year. The Secretary of State's Office, along with County Auditors and other partners at the local and state level, moved forward with the implementation process outlined in the updated HAVA State Plan to ensure the best use of federal, state and local funds. The implementation of the HAVA State Plan in 2005 focused on four key areas:

- A Statewide Voter Registration System (I-VOTERS).
- Allocation of funds and assistance for counties when purchasing Voting Equipment.
- Assisting Election Officials in providing a consistent training mechanism for their colleagues, staff and poll workers.
- A comprehensive Public Voter Education effort, especially engaging populations that traditionally voted at low rates.

The Secretary of State's Office would like to take this opportunity to recognize local election officials and their staff who have demonstrated integrity, determination and commitment through their tireless efforts to comply with HAVA requirements at the local level. Iowa law requires that Iowa's implementation process be driven from the local level. The diligence of officials in 99 counties has resulted in the successes related to HAVA implementation.

The Iowa Secretary of State's Office has continued its retention of State Public Policy Group (SPPG) to assist in the HAVA planning and implementation process, for project management and special research. This relationship will continue throughout 2006. SPPG is proud to continue to assist in the implementation of the HAVA State Plan.

Legislative Activity

Legislative activity relating to HAVA at the state level resulted in no significant changes in 2005, as much of the focus was on implementation of the program. Both the House and Senate engaged in debate over HAVA-related legislation, but neither bill was approved. The Secretary of State's Office revised the administrative rules related to accessible polling places to ensure greater accessibility in Iowa's effort to become 100 percent accessible. In an effort to keep the Legislature informed of progress, Chet Culver, Secretary of State, provided updates to the Government Oversight Committee on February 22, 2005 and December 14, 2005. Appearing on behalf of Secretary Culver were First Deputy Secretary of State Charles Krogmeier, Deputy Secretary of State John Hedgecoth, and State Public Policy Group administrator Arlinda McKeen.

Legislation

Many bills were introduced in the Legislature during the 2005 session that addressed Iowa elections or HAVA directly. Three bills received the greatest level of debate with one house passing each, but all of them failed to receive the support of both houses and the Governor. These bills included House File 644, House File 793, and Senate File 123. All three of these bills remain eligible for action by the Legislature when session convenes in January 2006. The Secretary of State's office maintains and has reiterated throughout the 2005 legislative session its policy position that a voter-verified paper trail is an appropriate requirement for voting machines operating in the state of Iowa. Legislative actions included a provision requesting a paper trail in elections legislation during the 2005 session and a letter from Secretary Culver to Governor Vilsack and legislative leaders concerning the need for a paper trail in Iowa.

Administrative Rules

The Secretary of State filed revised Administrative Code changes to Chapter 21 regarding accessibility waivers for polling places. The proposed change revises the instructions for applications for waivers of accessibility requirements for polling places, increasing the documentation required to apply for a waiver. In March 2005, the Secretary of State informed all counties that after 2005 waivers would be granted only if substantial documentation supported the need for such waivers.

Financial Oversight

The HAVA Financial Oversight Committee continues to review financial reports relating to HAVA and provide oversight for expenditures. Mike King, Supervisor from Union County, continues to chair the Financial Oversight Committee. Others on this committee are: State Treasurer Mike Fitzgerald, Iowa State Association of County Auditors President Auditor Judy Howrey, Iowa State Association of County Auditors Past President Pat Gill, and Polk County Auditor Michael Mauro.

The following principles continue to guide the Financial Oversight Committee as decisions are made about the expenditure of HAVA funds:

- Use the HAVA Plan Budget as the guide to all expenditures.
- Spend in excess of 80% of the funds to directly benefit Iowa's voters and counties.
- Minimize funding for administration.

HAVA Funds

When Congress passed HAVA legislation in 2002, it appropriated approximately \$4 billion to be used throughout all states and territories to help meet the requirements of the new law. Iowa's share of the federal appropriation was approximately \$29 million.

HAVA Revenue (Current and Estimated)

Expenditure Category	Funds	Clarification
HAVA Title I	\$5,000,000	Minimum amount of planning funds for every state
State Funds – 2003	\$423,000	Intergovernmental transfer for FY 2003 5% match
State Funds – 2004	\$765,000	State appropriation for FY 2004 5% state match
HAVA Title II – 2003 & 2004	\$23,739,383	Federal funds for two years
EAID Grants - 2005 & 2006	\$222,161	
GDDC – 2005	\$10,000	
Interest – 2003-2008	\$1,223,121	Projected
Revenue Total	\$31,382,665	

HAVA Expenditures (Projected)

Expenditure Category	Funds	Clarification
Voter Registration System	\$8,097,311	A contract was signed in January 2005 with Saber Consulting based on a competitive bid to provide a statewide voter registration system using specifications compiled from county registration system surveys. The budgeted amount includes additional funds for the purchase of data center hardware and county equipment upgrades (computers and scanners) to ensure compatibility.
Voting Systems	\$18,771,837	When Supervisors make purchases of new voting equipment, only equipment qualified by national standards and certified by the state of Iowa will be eligible to receive HAVA reimbursement. To ensure an equitable distribution among counties and encourage efficiency, funds for equipment purchases are allocated to counties based on a formula combining number of registered voters and number of precincts. This amount includes the cost of the lever/paper counties' lease-purchased equipment. Iowa made every effort to maximize the amount of funds transferred to the local level.
Provisional Voting	\$3,903	To keep current with provisional voting practices across the country and ensure complete HAVA compliance, the Secretary of State's staff has attended and presented at national meetings on this subject.
ADA Accessible Polling Places	\$580,146	The Secretary of State's office coordinated funding from a variety of sources to make Polling Place Accessibility micro-grants to reimburse counties for the costs of making physical improvements to polling places with the goal of increased accessibility. Currently, 521 precincts in 84 counties have received grants and become fully accessible.
Training and Education	\$3,001,505	Training and education efforts have focused on election officials and poll workers as one group and the general public as a second group. These efforts address issues of polling place locations, accessibility, customer service, voter registration and election systems and use of voting equipment. The goal of these efforts is that every poll worker feel comfortable with the equipment and process involved with voting and that voters know where they need to vote and which voting machine is now in use in their precinct.
Administration	\$911,850	Administrative funds will be used to ensure all HAVA requirements and other specific activities to improve Iowa's election system are thoroughly and adequately

		completed. Secretary of State staff has provided compliance advice and technical information throughout the implementation process.
Contingency	\$16,112	Dollars in the contingency fund will be used to pay for unforeseen expenses and to supplement the other categories, excluding administration.
Total	\$31,382,665	

Detailed information on HAVA revenues and expenditures is available at the end of this document or in the complete financial report on the Iowa Secretary of State's official website at the following location: <http://www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/hava/Funds/index.html>

Accessibility and Disability Issues

One of the key elements of the Help America Vote Act is its requirement to provide voting equipment that is accessible to all voters. This landmark change will allow many persons with disabilities to vote a secret ballot for the first time in their lives. In addition to complying with those requirements, Iowa is undertaking other activities to contribute to the full participation in elections by persons with disabilities:

- The Secretary of State's Office received a grant through the US Department Health and Human Services for addressing polling place accessibility issues. The Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council and Iowa Protection and Advocacy's Voter Access (PAVA) also offered grants that were collaboratively implemented with HAVA funding.
- Grants have been made available for counties to meet accessibility standards for polling places. Counties were required to pay the initial costs of making polling places accessible, and then were reimbursed by the Secretary of State's Office through a formal grant process.
- Grants were awarded in 2004 and 2005 with the following results:
 - 480 grants awarded in 2005/ 521 total
 - 82 counties received grants in 2005/ 84 total
 - \$650,132 grant dollars approved in 2005/ \$709,747 total
- Counties that needed HAVA-compliant machines made accessible equipment purchases.
- The Secretary of State's Office co-sponsored an event in September highlighting independence for persons with disabilities. The event, Independence Today, served as both outreach and education for persons with disabilities regarding the voting process and the new accessible voting equipment.

HAVA State Plan

As implementation of the HAVA State Plan has progressed, the need became apparent for additional public outreach and training to accomplish successful and timely implementation of HAVA mandates. The revisions were approved January 26, 2005.

Plan revision, like other HAVA work, was conducted in an open, public and transparent environment.

- It included feedback from citizens and local election officials.
- The Secretary of State's Office held more than a dozen local public outreach meetings, co-hosted by County Auditors, to gather feedback and suggestions from citizens of Iowa.
- This public input was combined with additional input from the statewide Advisory Committee (which includes County Auditors in addition to private citizens and disability advocates, see below) to ensure that appropriate changes and adjustments were made to the HAVA State Plan.

Plan revisions included:

- The establishment of a training and outreach program for 2005-06 to be housed in the Secretary of State's Office.
- The enhancement, where necessary, of State and County election materials for accuracy, accessibility and ease of use.
- The Secretary of State assisting County Auditors in re-designing their poll worker training materials to ensure consistency in election-day management of Iowa's polling places.
- The Secretary of State facilitating the development of a web-based poll worker training system.
- The Secretary of State assisting the County Auditors in Iowa through the State Election Administrator's Training by ensuring uniformity of training information and by enhancing training materials to best suit the training needs of election officials on HAVA compliance.
- The Secretary of State developing training strictly for County Supervisors to keep current and informed regarding their role in the county election process.

The Iowa HAVA State Plan can be found on the web at
<http://www.sos.state.ia.us/pdfs/elections/havastateplan.pdf>.

HAVA State Plan Advisory Committee

In 2003, the HAVA State Plan Advisory Committee was formed to develop and oversee implementation of Iowa's State HAVA Plan.

- The committee was formed with a focus on balancing gender, geography, ethnicity, and political affiliation.
- Includes the president of the Iowa State Association of County Auditors (ISACA) and immediate past president of the Iowa State Association of County Supervisors (ISACS).
- Also includes representatives from the disability community.

The HAVA Advisory Committee remains committed to overseeing the Plan's implementation, meeting quarterly for updates and progress reports.

Iowa's State Plan Advisory Committee Members, as of November 2005

- Jill Avery, Director, Iowa Department of Human Rights
- Elaine Baxter, former Secretary of State
- Kimberly Baxter, Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans
- Francis Boggus, Council Bluffs, Attorney
- Cyndi Chen, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Bob Cink, Kossuth County Supervisor
- Chet Culver, Iowa Secretary of State
- Peggy Elliott, City Council of Grinnell and National Federation of the Blind
- Michael L. Fitzgerald, Treasurer of State of Iowa
- Mary Gaskill, Iowa House of Representatives
- Pat Gill, Woodbury County Auditor and Past President of County Auditors, ISACA
- Michael Gronstal, Iowa State Senate Co-leader
- Mike Hoenig, Director, IDEAS Program Center for Disabilities and Development; University of Iowa, Iowa City
- Judy Howrey, Calhoun County Auditor, President of County Auditors, ISACA through December 31, 2005
- Libby Jacobs, Iowa House of Representatives
- Vernon Johnson, PACE, Des Moines
- Adam Kaduce, State of Iowa Youth Action Committee
- Mike King, Union County Board of Supervisors and Past President of Supervisors Affiliate, ISAC
- Bruce Koeppel, Director, Iowa AARP
- Linda Langenberg, Linn County Auditor
- Joey Lewis, Student, Iowa School for the Deaf
- Jennifer Martindale, Pastor, Iowa Central Deaf Assembly of God, Clive
- Michael Mauro, Polk County Auditor

- Pat Murphy, Minority Leader, Iowa House of Representatives
- Jan McNelly, Past President, League of Women Voters of Iowa
- Lannie Miller, Supervisor, Palo Alto County
- Skywalker Payne, Community Programs Coordinator, ICLU
- Sylvia Piper, Iowa Protection and Advocacy Services
- Marjorie Pitts, Clay County Auditor, President of County Auditors, ISACA, beginning January 1, 2005
- Rik Shannon, Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council, Department of Human Services, Des Moines
- Mark Zieman, Iowa State Senate

Communication with Local Officials, Staff and Policy Makers

It continues to be the practice of the Secretary of State to provide information about HAVA implementation and progress to Iowa's voters and citizens, county election officials, and state policymakers. Priority was placed on the initial planning to emphasize transparency in all steps of the implementation of the HAVA State Plan.

Public Meetings

Public meetings were conducted in the spring of 2005 in twelve locations around the state. The purposes of the meetings were to engage the public and share information about the HAVA State plan implementation with a focus on accessibility and local equipment purchases. Separate sessions were held in the same communities for boards of supervisors and county election officials to discuss their timelines, options, responsibilities and expectations regarding voting equipment procurement and other HAVA activities.

HAVA News

Bi-weekly electronic publication highlighting steps in the implementation of the HAVA State plan

- Serves as a cost-efficient tool in effectively communicating with interested individuals
- Current circulation is more than 250 individuals per edition.

Currently emailed to:

- Members of the State Plan Advisory Committee
- All additional working groups
- All County Auditors
- Equipment vendors
- Legislators that serve on pertinent committees and the Governor's Office
- Other interested parties

Web Access

The Secretary of State posts on the website information regarding Iowa's implementation of HAVA. That website can be accessed at:

<http://www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/HAVA/HAVAREports.html>

The Secretary of State also maintains a website containing voter-specific information. That website can be accessed at: <http://www.IowaVotes.us>

County Advocates

The Secretary of State recognized the burden of staff time that HAVA compliance imposed upon counties. Local officials, who often have very limited staff resources, were being asked to comb through a complex federal voting law, review their options for equipment purchases, work with vendors, negotiate contracts and obtain delivery of new voting machines. All of this was happening against a backdrop of new machines being certified for use and vendors preferred by

some officials failing to become certified as HAVA-compliant. A minefield of process and regulation was emerging. In response to concerns about the complexity of issues facing local officials, the Secretary of State's Office added local capacity in the form of County Advocates. These individuals worked directly with County Auditors and their staff to help facilitate the completion of paperwork for voting systems orders and polling place accessibility surveys, a necessary step in obtaining polling place accessibility grants. Six County Advocates worked in a regional capacity to assist County Auditors and their staff in meeting HAVA requirements in a timely fashion.

Additional Outreach

The Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) holds spring and fall training conferences, and the Secretary of State staff continues to make presentations at those conferences to provide updates on HAVA implementation progress.

- Secretary of State Culver and other staff members of the Secretary of State's Office presented to ISAC on November 14th regarding the future funding needs for software and hardware maintenance for I-VOTERS (Iowa-Voter's Online Technology secure Election Registration System.)
- The Secretary of State's Office has also presented at periodic ISAC regional meetings throughout the state in calendar year 2005.

Voter Registration System

HAVA requires a single, statewide voter registration system be in operation by January 1, 2006. Iowa is on schedule to comply with that deadline.

I-VOTERS

I-VOTERS is the name of Iowa's statewide voter registration system. This stands for Iowa Voters' Online Technology-secure Election Registration System. This system is a web-based statewide voter database that can be accessed from every County Auditor's office. Currently, some counties maintain their own voter database, which is uploaded into a statewide voter file periodically, and other counties use a database maintained at the state level.

A competitive bid process was conducted starting September 17, 2004.

- The voter registration software contract with Saber Consulting was signed on January 18, 2005, for a cost of \$2,689,000 for the software development and data migration.
- Thirteen counties agreed to serve as pilot counties during initial stages of the system development.
- Crucial support and guidance was provided throughout the planning and the Advisory Committee provided guidance, development and implementation of I-VOTERS.
- Each county progresses through five steps as they move to the I-VOTERS System after receiving localized training on the system from Secretary of State staff.
 - Equipment Delivery. Equipment includes computers and printers used to capture and control data for voter registration purposes.
 - Initial Data Migration.
 - Training.
 - Final Data Migration.
 - Move to I-VOTERS.
- The Secretary of State's Office is planning for a regular service agreement with Saber Consulting to be sustained through FY08. The maintenance of the voter registration system on an ongoing basis has been an issue that has generated much discussion internally. The Secretary of State's Office has determined that HAVA funding should be stretched to cover maintenance costs of the system through FY08. After that point, the statewide system should become a state responsibility, and not become an unfunded mandate to counties.
- Materials pertaining to the voter registration system process appear on the Secretary of State's website.

The I-VOTERS system will for the first time allow real-time data sharing among the counties and the Secretary of State's Office. It is intended reduce the number of duplicate registrations, make the transmission of voting data on election night easier and faster, and provide uniformity in the voter registration process throughout the state.

Implementation Update

County Auditors and their staffs have been subject to rigorous training for the past few months. A program of full-day sessions meeting weekly for eight weeks is being completed at eight remote sites throughout the state. The training is operated by Saber and Secretary of State staff and has been well received.

Implementation of the five steps above is nearly complete. As of December 12, 2005, nearly 40 counties were “live” and connected in real time to the new voter registration system, with more counties being added each day. All counties are expected to be connected to the system by the December 31, 2005 deadline.

Midwest Voter Registration Cross-Checking Agreement

On December 12, 2005 Secretaries of State representing four Midwest states announced a first-of-its kind data crosschecking agreement. Secretaries of State representing Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska signed an agreement that is expected to improve election administration in each state and help meet new federal voting system standards. The pact was part of the opening session of the fifth annual Midwest Election Officials Conference in Overland Park, KS, which runs through Thursday.

The agreement would allow each state, among other things, to check its database of registered voters on a regular basis against the databases of other states to eliminate duplicate registrations and purge the names of people who have passed away in other states.

Voting Equipment/Election Systems

HAVA requires that all voting systems must be in place by January 1, 2006. All new equipment will be compliant with a number of standards relating to individual privacy and accessibility.

- Beginning with any federal election held in 2006 (the Iowa primary on June 6, 2006, is the first such scheduled election), systems used in Federal elections must provide for error correction by voters, manual auditing, accessibility, alternative languages, and meet federal error-rate standards. Systems must also maintain voter privacy and ballot confidentiality.
- HAVA accessibility requirements state that each precinct must have a machine that is accessible for individuals with disabilities, including nonvisual accessibility for the blind and visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters. HAVA further states that a direct recording electronic (DRE) machine meets this definition.
- HAVA requires that all election equipment meet the machine error rate standards set by the 2002 Federal Election Commission (FEC) Voting System Standards. The 2002 standards changed the acceptable error rate to 1 for every 10 million ballot positions. Many voting machines currently in use in Iowa do not meet the more rigorous error rate standards, thus the state is assisting counties to purchase new equipment that meets all HAVA requirements.
- The state cannot certify or approve the use of equipment until it is approved at the federal level.

Key Issues

The following provides an update on key activities or issues:

- The Iowa Secretary of States Office expects the ES&S Automark system to become certified for use in Iowa, now that it has been certified at the Federal level.
- Many counties throughout Iowa determined in advance which equipment they would purchase based on current equipment and experience with specific companies.
- The Advisory Committee approved the suggested blended funding formula in order to ensure an equitable distribution of funds to counties for purchasing new equipment.

An Executive Committee of representatives of the HAVA Advisory and Financial Oversight Committees convened to investigate possibilities for a blended (per voter and per precinct) funding formula. The Executive Committee worked out funding figures for each county based on a blended formula and compared those numbers to the funding each county would have received on a per-registered voter and a per-precinct basis.

Update on Compliance

As of this date, in more than 90 counties, the purchase of HAVA compliant voting equipment has been completed. It is expected that all counties will have completed the process by the December 31, 2005 deadline. See the attached map labeled, "Voting System Allocation Applications Approved," dated December 12, 2005, which provides information current through that date. Some counties are awaiting approval by the Board of Supervisors for their voting machine purchase agreements.

Training and Education

Training and Education Audiences

HAVA training and education efforts are required for three groups:

- Election officials (state and local)
- Poll workers
- General public

The Iowa Secretary of State's Office is currently working to ensure the State meets HAVA requirements as it implements key strategies and activities. Training and education for state and local election officials, poll workers and the general public is required in the HAVA federal legislation. Training and education efforts have been focused on election officials and poll workers as one group and voters and the general public as a second group. The content of training and education efforts may differ, but both address issues of accessibility, voting etiquette, voter registration and election systems and voting equipment. Building on successful approaches from other states, the training and education advisory groups support the notion that Iowans receive the best training and education possible.

Training and Education Advisory Groups

Two advisory groups have helped create training and education for Iowa to improve voting participation and knowledge of the system across the state. One group is primarily made up of election officials, and has assisted in developing training and education efforts for state and local election officials and poll workers. The second group focuses on statewide outreach efforts for all Iowans in order to increase voting participation across the state. This group also centers its attention on increasing voting participation among people with disabilities, young voters, first-time voters, and minority populations in the state.

Outreach Efforts

Training and education outreach efforts have been and will continue to be provided in a variety of venues and by appropriate trainers. More technical training and education focused on accessibility issues, voting equipment, and voter registration and elections systems will be offered to state and local election officials (i.e., SEAT training), vendors, and advocacy groups. Public and voter education will include more general messages and explain voting processes and systems, provide informative details, and encourage voting participation.

Election Officials and Poll Workers

The following highlights key activities undertaken regarding election officials and poll workers during 2005:

- Auditors and other election officials are working with the State Election Administrator Training (SEAT) program's Executive Committee on increasing the program's longevity

with HAVA funds. The Secretary of State's Office has set aside approximately \$600,000 of HAVA funds over the next three years to ensure that SEAT training continues and to include continuing education requirements to maintain certification.

- A 28E Agreement between SEAT, Secretary of State's Office, and Iowa State Association of Counties to house SEAT training was reached to provide long-term training and education. The SOS will have a SEAT plan in place before the end of the year. SEAT training is an important investment ensuring consistency and availability at reasonable costs for training of election officials throughout Iowa.
- Online poll worker training RFP:
 - Online poll worker training development will supplement existing poll worker training curriculum that is delivered face to face by county auditors and election officials using training materials developed as part of HAVA efforts in 2004. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was developed by State Public Policy Group on behalf of the SOS, and with input and review by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to assure economies of scale, compliance with all relevant statutes and rules, and best practices in solicitation and review of proposals. The RFP was released on August 11, 2005.
 - DAS closed the receipt of proposals on September 8, 2005. An Evaluation Committee of Secretary of State Staff and county election officials convened on September 15 under direction of the issuing officer of the DAS Purchasing Division for a deliberative session on the technical proposal and cost proposal scoring. Issuance of a Notice of intent to Award letter to Alliance Technologies occurred in late September.
 - The online poll worker training contract with Alliance Technologies is currently being drafted and will be signed soon.
- The online poll worker training curriculum is under development to allow poll workers to receive consistent and comprehensive training. The goal of the Secretary of State is to have one certified poll worker per precinct. Some issues remain relating to technology and computers that will be available to poll workers seeking the training.
- The poll worker curriculum was developed in 2004. Enhancements are planned for the future.

Voter Outreach

As the State Commissioner of Elections, the Secretary of State has been integral in voter outreach efforts. The task of educating and registering voters is not a new one, but the HAVA legislation requires that specific efforts be made to ensure that voters have appropriate training regarding all elements of the voting process. The Secretary of State has continued to lead activities in the areas of voter registration, youth activities, and education to specific populations. For information on general voter outreach, see the section of this report entitled “2005 Election Activities.”

Celebrate Voting

The challenge to involve citizens in voter outreach efforts during an off-election year was met creatively with this year’s Celebrate Voting initiative. Recognizing that HAVA is the most significant piece of voting rights legislation passed since the U.S. Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Secretary of State’s Office coordinated education about HAVA with other celebrations of voting rights that were occurring across Iowa and the United States.

This year marked the 40th anniversary of the U.S. Voting Rights Act, the 85th anniversary of the 19th amendment, which gave women the right to vote, and the 15th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Such a diverse group of celebrations necessitated the formation of the Celebrate Voting Partners, a group of eight organizations, including the Secretary of State’s Office, which came together to assist local organizations in the planning of several statewide events to educate and engage Iowans about their right to vote—past, present, and future. The Celebrate Voting Partners, who also include the Iowa State Historical Foundation, the Iowa Department of Human Rights, the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, the NAACP State Conference, the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics, ID Action, and the League of Women Voters of Iowa, continue to be instrumental in connecting voter outreach efforts to their respective constituencies and other interested groups. Corporate and private donations to the Iowa State Historical Foundation for this purpose were used for some expenses, including speakers and refreshments for events.

Celebrate Voting events were held across the state, specifically targeting populations who have had historically low voting participation rates, such as persons with disabilities, African-Americans, and college students. In conjunction with Iowa State University’s Catt Center, the University of Iowa’s Center for Human Rights, the University of Northern Iowa’s Public Policy Graduate Program, and Drake University’s Constitutional Law Center, academic symposia were held in order to discuss various issues relating to voting rights. Some celebrations centered on recognizing Iowans who have been important in extending voting rights. Voting Rights Kits were developed for use in schools and local county officials’ offices for public education. Additionally, disability organizations, community partners, local elected officials, and faith-based organizations were tapped to provide their perspectives, raise questions, and supply volunteers

and event participants. Some perspectives were captured on a DVD, along with video footage from these events. This DVD has been made available for local use and displayed at many voting rights functions. Together, these events served over 2000 Iowans, including over 500 youth.

Essay Contest

Celebrate Voting continues to serve Iowans in the form of a youth essay and video contest on voting rights and in multi-media kits provided to teachers and interested educational groups.

Disability Advocacy

The Secretary of State also works in conjunction with the Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council in promoting a "Day on the Hill" for persons with disabilities. This provides an opportunity for persons with disabilities to learn and communicate about voting issues with their state policymakers.

General Public

The general public also requires significant training and education regarding all components of HAVA. The work group charged with meeting this aspect of HAVA recently met to add value and approve a statewide voter outreach plan for 2006. This plan is centered on four areas: first time voters, equipment demonstrations, persons with disabilities, and the general public, with a special focus on populations that have typically had a low voter turnout.

State and Local Involvement

The involvement of state and local officials has been crucial to the implementation of the HAVA legislation from the beginning, as evidenced by the continued commitment of the State HAVA Advisory Committee. The Secretary of State's Office opened and maintained several lines of communication in 2005 for the purpose of ensuring that stakeholders have timely knowledge and have ample opportunity to participate in a transparent decision-making process.

Local Involvement

County Auditors remain deeply involved in HAVA implementation in a number of ways. First, several Auditors continue to serve on the HAVA Advisory Committee, the Financial Oversight Committee, the Training and Education Subcommittee, and other ad hoc groups to facilitate smooth and equitable decision making. A group of committed County Auditors also helped to pioneer the training process for counties that will allow all counties to securely transition to the single, statewide voter registration system required by HAVA. These Pilot Counties provided significant time and effort to give input to the Secretary of State's Office and the software contractor so that the final registration database is secure, user-friendly, and reflects the needs of local election staff. Auditors also afforded valuable assistance in various Celebrate Voting projects.

County Supervisors were also instrumental in the process of selecting voting systems that are appropriate for each county. They are the ultimate decision makers with regard to equipment purchases, and are to be commended for timely action that has resulted in near complete compliance as of this date and that will certainly result in total compliance by the December 31, 2005 deadline. In a series of regional outreach meetings in spring of 2005, the Secretary of State's Office met with County Auditors and Supervisors to discuss the specific requirements of HAVA and to gather input from those officials on what counties needed in order to meet the requirements.

State Involvement

Members of the General Assembly receive biweekly updates on HAVA implementation via the HAVA Newsletter that is mailed electronically to legislators serving in a certain capacity and many local elected officials. The Government Oversight Committee has been an important avenue in ensuring that the Secretary of State hears the comments and concerns of Iowans regarding HAVA. Moreover, a number of legislators serve ex officio on either the HAVA Advisory Committee or Training and Education Committee.

A number of state agencies have also shown interest in HAVA implementation, including the Governor's Office. Most notably, the Department of Administrative Services and the Attorney General's Office have facilitated contracts with vendors for the I-VOTERS voter registration database and for voting systems vendors.

New Iowans

The purpose of the New Iowans project is to produce The Iowa New Citizens Civic handbook. The handbook focuses on civic education and participation in the community and in voting. It discusses how the United States was formed; the structure of the federal, state and local governments, citizen's involvement in the election process, and Iowa's voting process. This handbook is designed to be an interactive training manual for new Iowans.

The training will utilize three resource tools:

- Civic handbook
- Facilitator's guide
- Video on the voting process

The handbook covers:

- United States government formation
- The three branches of government
- States voting rights and responsibility and the structure of Iowa's state government
- Local government in Iowa: county and municipal systems
- Educational system in Iowa
- Benefits and responsibilities of citizenship
- Voting in Iowa

The facilitator's guide covers:

- Content in the handbook
- A collection of tools available to enhance learning and expand civic participation beyond the classroom session

The video covers:

- Public Service Announcement encouraging citizens to exercise their voting rights
- Voting in Iowa

An outcome of the New Iowans Initiative is expected to be that new citizens gain a higher awareness of significant issues and the importance of voting. Additionally, it is hoped that the participants will experience an increased comfort level about voting and civic participation.

The handbook will be distributed in a variety of venues, including naturalization ceremonies, public libraries, ESL classes, cultural based organizations, faith based sponsoring groups, educational institutions at all levels, election offices at courthouses, city clerks' offices, service organizations and advocacy groups.

Looking Ahead

As Iowa moves forward with implementing the HAVA legislation, much is planned in the HAVA State Plan's primary activity areas.

Voting Equipment

- The Secretary of State expects that all counties will have equipment in place that is HAVA compliant on or before December 31, 2005.

Voter Registration

- As implementation of the statewide voter registration system, I-VOTERS continues, the Secretary of State is planning to develop processes and roles necessary to provide top quality support to counties. Plans are also in place to provide ongoing software management and to develop a customer advisory council and user groups to provide feedback and recommendations on needed changes in the I-VOTERS system. The Secretary of State's Office expects that all ninety-nine counties will be in live production status by December 31, 2005.

Training and Education

- Outreach targeted to specific communities in 2006 will include first time voters and the general public. The Secretary of State's Office and local County Auditors will focus on strengthening relationships with various constituencies in order to educate more populations about voting. As equipment is replaced, instructions specific to the equipment type will need to be well communicated to the public through demonstrations.
- Persons with disabilities will be important targets of voter outreach in the coming months.
- Continual improvements will be made in the training of election officials and poll workers. The SEAT program will be sustained through planning, seeded by HAVA funds. The online poll worker training curriculum will be developed and implemented in the spring of 2006.

Summary

Iowa has continued to stay on target in both financial matters and the timely implementation of the HAVA State Plan. Having made significant investments of time and effort at the state, local, and individual levels, stakeholders in the election process have put in place a strong foundation from which decisions will be made to spend \$30 million to make Iowa's election administration even better. With funding comes a variety of challenges. Systematic and transparent decision-making continues to be a guiding principle and practice of this effort.

This implementation would not have been successful without the vision and commitment of the HAVA Advisory Committee, the HAVA Financial Oversight Committee, Training and Education Committee, Equipment Work Group, and other groups who have worked on this process. These groups, along with county election officials, have shown their commitment to the implementation of these mandates throughout a process that was, at times, uncertain.

It is critical that these funds be viewed as Iowa funds, with the focus on all the voters in the state. In an effort to ensure that 80% or more of these funds go to counties to improve the election system for all, it will be necessary to provide adequate technical assistance and support to the counties, as well as appropriate checks and balances regarding the funding.

This report provides a summary of HAVA activities over the last calendar year. Significant time has been invested, and many individuals throughout the state have been involved in this effort. The Secretary of State is proud of the work of the county election officials, committees, work groups and his staff of the Secretary of State's Office in making Iowa's voting administration stronger.

6-year Fiscal Summary

HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT

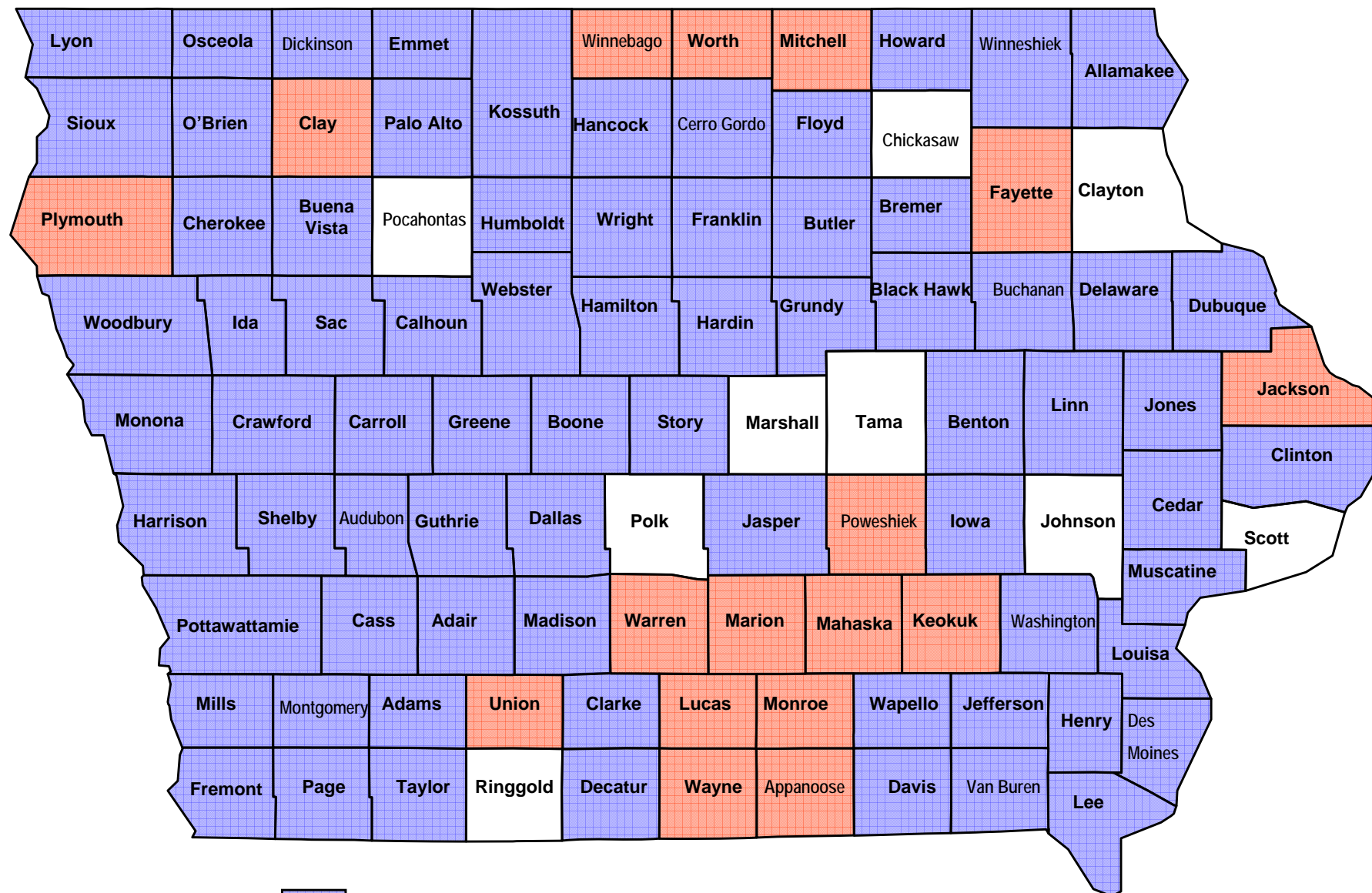
Revenue	ACTUAL FY03	ACTUAL FY04	ACTUAL FY05	ACTUAL YTD FY06	TOTAL REV REC'D	FY06	FY07	FY08		BUDGETED
Federal Funding	5,000,000.00	23,739,383.00			28,739,383.00					28,739,383.00
Interest	13,972.16	108,531.59	666,552.83	221,868.08	1,010,924.66	300,000.00	109,064.42	25,000.00		1,223,121.00
State Match	423,000.00	765,000.00			1,188,000.00					1,188,000.00
EAID Grants						222,161.00				222,161.00
IDAction Grant			10,000.00		10,000.00					10,000.00
Reimbursements				72.50						
REVENUE TOTAL	5,436,972.16	24,612,914.59	676,552.83	221,940.58	30,948,307.66	522,161.00	109,064.42	25,000.00		31,382,665.00
Expense Category	ACTUAL FY03	ACTUAL FY04	ACTUAL FY05	ACTUAL YTD FY06	TOTAL EXP	FY06	FY07	FY08	LINE ITEM BUDGET	BUDGETED
TRAINING & EDUCATION										3,001,505.07
General										
VTE - Misc			3,345.97		3,345.97	6,654.03			10,000.00	
VTE - Plan Implementation			62,500.00		62,500.00	30,000.00			92,500.00	
VTE - Travel			1,004.18		1,004.18	8,995.82			10,000.00	
Gen'l Training & Educ Subtotal			66,850.15		66,850.15	45,649.85			112,500.00	
Election Official & Pollworker										
EOP - Auditor Training			323.00		323.00	10,000.00	14,677.00		25,000.00	
EOP - MEOC				241.31		50,000.00			50,000.00	
EOP - Misc						50,000.00	50,000.00		100,000.00	
EOP - Other Contractual						100,000.00			100,000.00	
EOP - Pollworker Training			70,336.32	34.61	70,336.32	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	670,336.32	
EOP - SEAT Misc		1,200.00			1,200.00	4,518.00	4,545.00		10,263.00	
EOP - SEAT Registration		49,910.00	44,600.00		94,510.00	50,000.00	50,000.00		194,510.00	
EOP - Travel			1,120.58		1,120.58	7,500.00	7,500.00		16,120.58	
Election Official & Pollworker Subtotal		51,110.00	116,379.90	275.92	167,765.82	472,018.00	326,722.00	200,000.00	1,166,229.90	
Voter Outreach										
VO - Direct Mail			328,932.13		328,932.13	71,067.87	350,000.00		750,000.00	
VO - Misc			1,131.09		1,131.09	50,000.00	28,868.91		80,000.00	
VO - Other Contractual			31,145.00	29,445.00	31,145.00	108,855.00	50,000.00		190,000.00	
VO - Outreach		562.80	174,346.00	141,064.53	315,973.33	109,370.00	100,000.00		384,278.80	
VO - PSA						50,000.00	50,000.00		100,000.00	
VO - Salaries		38,442.32	27,190.17	12,902.00	65,632.49	55,000.00	55,000.00		175,632.49	
VO - Travel		175.64	1,115.26	503.70	1,290.90	20,000.00	13,522.30		34,813.20	
VO -Youth Summit		550.68			550.68	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	8,050.68	
Voter Outreach Subtotal		39,731.44	563,859.65	183,915.23	744,655.62	466,792.87	649,891.21	2,500.00	1,722,775.17	
Training & Education Subtotal		90,841.44	747,089.70	184,191.15	1,022,122.29	984,460.72	976,613.21	202,500.00	3,001,505.07	
PROVISIONAL VOTING										3,903.30
PV - Travel		806.60			806.60	996.70	500.00		2,303.30	
PV - Misc						1,100.00	500.00		1,600.00	
Provisional Voting Total		806.60			806.60	2,096.70	1,000.00		3,903.30	
VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM										8,097,311.37
VRS - Facilitation User Groups		7,000.00	16,046.88		23,046.88	3,953.12			27,000.00	
VRS - Miscellaneous		1,379.91	4,586.28	310.01	6,276.20	5,200.00			11,166.19	
VRS - Other Contractual			37,774.39	55,480.01	93,254.40	62,225.61			100,000.00	
VRS - Plan Implementation		18,833.00			18,833.00	8,000.00			26,833.00	
VRS - Salaries		57,362.73	79,734.07	42,945.11	180,041.91	150,326.00	150,000.00	150,000.00	587,422.80	
VRS - Statewide System			2,366,296.10	1,385,422.26	3,751,718.36	3,517,670.34			5,883,966.44	
VRS - Training Statewide System Use			28,620.98	22,752.98	51,373.96	75,000.00	75,000.00	55,646.35	234,267.33	
VRS - Travel		5,809.69	10,658.71	2,568.95	19,037.35	10,187.21			26,655.61	
System Maintenance							600,000.00	600,000.00	1,200,000.00	
Voter Registration System Total		90,385.33	2,543,717.41	1,509,479.32	4,143,582.06	3,832,562.28	825,000.00	805,646.35	8,097,311.37	

6-year Fiscal Summary

HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT

Expense Category	ACTUAL FY03	ACTUAL FY04	ACTUAL FY05	ACTUAL YTD FY06	TOTAL EXP	FY06	FY07	FY08	LINE ITEM BUDGET	BUDGETED
<u>VOTING SYSTEMS</u>										18,771,836.80
* VS - County Grants (lease)			174,441.06		174,441.06				174,441.06	
VS - County Grants (purchase)			585,970.00	2,683,446.53	3,269,416.53	17,439,983.00			18,025,953.00	
VS - Special Allotment						500,000.00			500,000.00	
VS - Facilitation of User Group		11,500.00			11,500.00	24,800.00			36,300.00	
VS - Miscellaneous		173.66	956.50	6.46	1,136.62	4,421.44			5,551.60	
VS - Other Contractual		1,403.85			1,403.85				1,403.85	
VS - Plan Implementation		8,833.00	12,500.00		21,333.00				21,333.00	
VS - Travel		3,224.83	3,629.46		6,854.29				6,854.29	
Voting Systems Total		25,135.34	777,497.02	2,683,452.99	3,486,085.35	17,969,204.44			18,771,836.80	
<u>ADA ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES</u>										580,145.74
Accessibility			65,797.67	113,398.72	179,196.39	414,023.68			479,821.35	
Access & Participation		3,573.00	10,000.00		13,573.00	5,000.00			18,573.00	
Training		5,490.00	24,875.00		30,365.00	3,000.00			33,365.00	
Information dissemination			42,386.39		42,386.39	6,000.00			48,386.39	
ADA - Accessible Polling Places Total		9,063.00	143,059.06	113,398.72	265,520.78	428,023.68			580,145.74	
<u>PROGRAM MANAGEMENT</u>										911,850.35
PM - Administration		827.09	3,443.77	6,046.07	10,316.93	5,854.71	20,000.00		30,125.57	
PM - Implementation & Planning		47,186.72	91,577.88		138,764.60	50,000.00	5,000.00		193,764.60	
PM - Miscellaneous		2,103.94	43,879.84	2,619.94	48,603.72	25,632.03	25,000.00		96,615.81	
PM - Other Contractual			3,000.00	17,145.00	20,145.00	125,000.00	25,000.00		153,000.00	
PM - Salaries			145,351.27	101,864.94	247,216.21	150,000.00	104,477.86		399,829.13	
PM - Travel Other		2,550.80	18,109.08	11,484.96	32,144.84	7,855.36	10,000.00		38,515.24	
Program Management Total		52,668.55	305,361.84	139,160.91	497,191.30	364,342.10	189,477.86	0.00	911,850.35	
<u>CONTINGENCY FUNDS</u>								16,112.37	16,112.37	16,112.37
					9,415,308.38					
<u>EXPENSE BUDGET TOTAL</u>		268,900.26	4,516,725.03	4,629,683.09	9,415,308.38	23,580,689.92	1,992,091.07	1,024,258.72	31,382,665.00	31,382,665.00

Voting System Allocation Applications Approved – December 12, 2005



Precinct Count Optical Scan as primary voting system



Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) as primary voting system



State has not received Allocation Application for voting system